GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2354
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2005
NEW OIL GAS FIELDS
Nikhil Kumar Shri

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the public sector oil companies have failed to find new oil and gas fields in the past few years in the country whereas private sector oil companies have made significant oil and gas finds;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the new strategies to be adopted by public sector oil companies to find new oil and gas fields in the country to compete with private oil companies?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS & PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) & (b): No Sir, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.(ONGC) and Oil India Ltd.(OIL) have made 19 and 12 hydrocarbon finds respectively in the States of Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Assam, Rajasthan, Tripura and off the coast of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh.

(c): Under the new fiscal and contractual regime following the announcement of the New Exploration Licensing Policy(NELP) by the Government in 1997, oil public sector units have reoriented their exploration strategies and are actively collaborating as well as competing with, private companies to get exploration blocks offered under NELP to enchance their exploration acreages.